

Arizona Department of Child Safety

Family Centered Strengths and Risks Assessment Interview and Documentation Guide

General Questions

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Who lives in your home?</p> <p>Who else spends time at your home?</p> <p>Have you always lived in (town/community)? If no, where else have you lived?</p> <p>Do you have any idea why I am here today to talk with you and your family?</p> <p>Have you or has anyone else ever been concerned that ____ was being hurt or neglected?</p> <p>Does your child have a history of running away?</p> <p>Where do they go when they run away?</p> <p>Does your child work? If so how do they manage the money they earn?</p> <p>Do they ever have any unexplained cash, gifts, clothing, or other items?</p> <p>What are you most worried about?</p> <p>What have your experiences with DCS been like in the past?</p> <p>Would you please show me where your child(ren) sleep, eat, etc.?</p> <p>What do you like best about your family?</p> <p>For aftercare planning:</p> <p>If you could change something about your family, what would it be?</p> <p>What does your family need help with?</p> <p>Is there anything that would help your family become stronger as a family?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Tell me about your family.</p> <p>Who lives at your house?</p> <p>Who else spends time at your home?</p> <p>Who helps your mom/dad take care of you?</p> <p>Where do you sleep?</p> <p>Have you always lived in (town/community)? If no, where else have you lived?</p> <p>Are you in school?</p> <p>Have you always gone to this school? If no, what other schools have you gone to?</p> <p>Do you work? If so please tell me about it.</p> <p>Who saw _____ happen? Who was home when ____ happened?</p> <p>Who have you told about _____?</p> <p>What are you most worried about?</p> <p>Are you ever forced to do anything you don't want to do?</p> <p>Are you able to come and go as you please?</p> <p>What is the best thing that has happened to you this week?</p> <p>What do you like best about your family?</p> <p>For aftercare planning:</p> <p>If you could change something about your family, what would it be?</p> <p>If you had three wishes, what would you change about your family?</p> <p>What does your family need help with?</p>

Current Maltreatment and Circumstances Surrounding the Maltreatment

Specific Allegations

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Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Gather information about the specific allegations including: who, what, when, where, how, why.</p> <p>Why do you think DCS was called regarding your family?</p> <p>Would you describe for me how ____s injury happened?</p> <p>What was your day like that day? How were you feeling?</p> <p>Was there something different about this particular day?</p> <p>How long has _____ been going on?</p> <p>Help me to better understand how _____ was hurt.</p> <p>What have you heard about _____?</p> <p>Help me understand exactly what happened to cause someone to call us out of concern for your child.</p> <p>What happened right before _____?</p> <p>How do you feel about what happened?</p> <p>When did you first notice there was an issue with _____?</p> <p>Did you intend to hurt ____ as a means to teach him/her a lesson, or did you simply lose control?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Gather information about the specific allegations including: who, what, when, where, how, why</p> <p>I heard something about _____. Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Who have you talked to about _____ (the abuse situation)?</p> <p>Who was there or saw _____ (the abuse situation)?</p> <p>What have you heard about _____?</p> <p>Tell me what happened right before _____.</p> <p>You said _____, tell me more about that.</p>

Physical Abuse

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Tell me about what you do for discipline? What do you do if that doesn't work?</p> <p>What are the rules for the children?</p> <p>What are the consequences when the children do not behave?</p> <p>Do the children all have the same rules/consequences?</p> <p>What happens when ____ is not able to do what you expect?</p> <p>What happens when your child gets in trouble?</p> <p>Tell me what you think is normal discipline.</p> <p>Are the discipline techniques you use effective?</p> <p>How do you teach your child right from wrong?</p> <p>How do you help _____ to do what you expect?</p> <p>If _____ is being really difficult, how do you deal with him/her?</p> <p>What bugs you about _____? What pushes your button? Who does he/she remind you of?</p> <p>What challenges you about your child?</p> <p>What is your "breaking point"?</p> <p>How do you feel when you have to discipline your child?</p> <p>Are there any times you have disciplined when you were angry?</p> <p>Have you ever hurt your child? Have you ever hurt your child accidentally when disciplining them?</p> <p>What kinds of things does your child do that frustrates or angers you? What do you</p>
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	do when they behave that way?
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Observe child for bruises or other signs of injury. Obtain a medical examination if indicated.</p> <p>What happens when you get in trouble at home?</p> <p>Do you have any bumps or bruises on your body right now?</p> <p>Has your mom or dad ever hurt you? Or anyone else?</p> <p>Is there ever a time that you are afraid at home?</p> <p>Do you ever do or say anything that makes your mom or dad mad? What do they do when they are mad?</p>

Emotional Abuse

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Tell me about your child. (Listen for any indication of scapegoating or unrealistic expectations)</p> <p>Tell me about your relationship with your child.</p> <p>Have you ever said something to your child that you regret?</p> <p>How do you get along with _____?</p> <p>Describe a great memory with _____.</p> <p>What does your son/daughter do to make you proud?</p> <p>How do you spend time with _____ each day?</p> <p>Is there something that keeps you from spending time and giving attention to _____?</p> <p>How do you know when ____ needs something? Does ____ come to you when he needs something?</p> <p>Whom does _____ seek for comfort?</p> <p>How do you attend to _____ needs? How do you help ____ get his/her needs met?</p> <p>How does ____ get your attention?</p> <p>How do you feel about being a parent?</p> <p>How do you show your child that you love him/her?</p> <p>Are any of your children more difficult for you to parent/handle than others?</p> <p>Is there one child you feel differently about or treat differently?</p> <p>When do you feel most emotionally connected to ____?</p> <p>How does ____ know when you are angry? How would ____ describe you when you are angry?</p> <p>What does ____ say or do when you are angry or frustrated at him/her?</p> <p>Has ____ ever hurt him/herself or others?</p> <p>What do you enjoy most about parenting? What do you enjoy least?</p> <p>Are there any words that can't be used in your house (shut up, stupid, swear words)?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Observe the child's emotional state and indicators of social functioning level.</p> <p>What are the rules at home? Are the rules the same for all the children in the home?</p> <p>What happens when you get in trouble at home? Are the consequences the same for all the children in the home? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>What is the best time at home? What is the worst time at home?</p> <p>Are there people in your house who call each other names? Tell me more about that.</p>

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Have you ever been embarrassed at home? Tell me more about that.
 Are you ever afraid at home? Tell me more about that.
 What are you good at? What do you love to do?
 Are there any words that can't be used in your house (shut up, stupid, swear words)?

Sexual Abuse

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p><i>RESPOND IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR COUNTY'S JOINT INVESTIGATION PROTOCOL WHEN THERE IS AN ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE DCS REPORT.</i></p> <p>When there is no allegation of Sexual Abuse in the DCS report: Observe the home environment for pornographic material in plain view. Has anyone in your family been a victim of sexual abuse? Do you have any concerns that _____ has been sexually abused? If yes, what signs or behaviors have you seen that make you think this? When did these behaviors begin? Have you ever talked to _____ about what to do if someone touches her/his private parts? Has anyone in your family been accused of sexually abusing another person? What contact does _____ have with this person? Are you aware of anyone who may have attempted to touch _____ inappropriately or who may have made _____ uncomfortable by the way he/she touched him/her? Does anyone else have concerns that _____ has been sexually abused? If yes- Tell me more about that? What happened? Where were you the last time it happened? Who did it? Do you know what contact (alleged perpetrator's name) has with the child now? When was the last time it happened? (If the answers to these questions indicate the child has been the victim of sexual abuse, stop questioning at this point and refer to your county's joint investigation protocol.) If allegations have not been reported, a report to DCS and law enforcement must be made.</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p><i>RESPOND IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR COUNTY'S JOINT INVESTIGATION PROTOCOL WHEN THERE IS AN ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE DCS REPORT.</i></p> <p>When there is no allegation of Sexual Abuse in the DCS report, ask the following questions: Has someone touched you where they are not supposed to touch? Has someone touched you on the areas your underwear covers? Has someone touched you where you did not want them to touch? (teenagers) Has someone made you touch a body part of theirs you did not want to touch? Has someone touched you and then told you to keep it a secret? If yes, what happened? (If child provides an answer to the initial "what happened"</p>

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	<p>question, there is no need to continue with the rest of the following questions; contact law enforcement.)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Where were you the last time it happened?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Who did it?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">When was the last time it happened?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(If the answers to these questions indicate the child has been the victim of sexual abuse, stop questioning at this point and refer to your county's joint investigation protocol.)</p>
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Neglect

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Observe the home's physical condition; sleeping, cooking and toilet facilities; utility functioning; adequacy of food and clothing; cleanliness; weight and health of the children; etc.</p> <p>Who is your child's doctor/dentist? When was the last time ___ saw a doctor/dentist?</p> <p>Does your child have health insurance?</p> <p>Is there ever a time when your family does not have enough food/electricity/water/heating & cooling? What do you do in those times?</p> <p>Does your child ever stay home alone? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>What concerns do you have about your house or neighborhood being safe for you or ___?</p> <p>Do you have any trouble keeping an eye on ___ or has ___ ever gotten away from you? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Who helps you watch ___?</p> <p>Are the older children ever responsible for caring for the younger ones?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Is there ever a time when there is not enough food in the home? If yes, What happens when there is not enough food in the house?</p> <p>Who cooks the food at home?</p> <p>When was the last time you ate?</p> <p>Tell me about the last time you went to the doctor.</p> <p>Tell me about the last time you went to the dentist.</p> <p>Has there ever been a time when you were sick and did not go to the doctor? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Do you ever stay home alone? Do you and your brothers & sisters ever stay home alone?</p> <p>Who takes care of you if your mom or dad can't? Where at? Do they know they are supposed to be watching you?</p> <p>Do you ever get scared playing in your neighborhood? Tell me what makes your scared.</p> <p>What do you do after you get home from school? Is anyone there when you get home?</p>

CHILD CHARACTERISTICS

Child Vulnerability/Self Protection

Questions to ask the	<p>Who can _____ go to when he/she needs help? Who can he/she go to if there is no adult at home?</p>
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Caregiver	<p>Does _____ attend child care or school/participate in any activities outside of school?</p> <p>How does _____ get to and from school?</p> <p>Who is home before and after school with _____?</p> <p>How do you know when _____ is hurt or upset?</p> <p>How do you comfort _____? Is _____ easily comforted?</p> <p>In addition to you, who else does _____ see on a regular basis?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Observe whether there are any physical or developmental characteristics that would inhibit the child's ability to seek help or protect him/herself.</p> <p>Are there times that you feel scared? What are you afraid will happen?</p> <p>Are there times that you are left alone? What do you do?</p> <p>Where can you go/who can you call if you need help?</p> <p>What do you do when your mom or dad gets mad?</p> <p>What happens when you get in trouble?</p> <p>What is the best time at your home?</p> <p>What is the worst time at your home?</p> <p>Who do you go to when you are afraid or hurt? What does _____ do when you go to him/her?</p> <p>Who could you go to if mom/dad is not there?</p>

Child Special Needs/Behavior Problems

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Describe any special needs that _____ has (such as in school, physical health, eating, sleeping, getting along with others, behaviors)?</p> <p>How does _____'s special needs affect him/her?</p> <p>What special things do you do regarding _____'s special needs?</p> <p>What concerns you about your child?</p> <p>Does _____ have any health conditions we should know about? Any medications?</p> <p>Has _____ had any special medical services, testing or treatments?</p> <p>Do you have any concerns about your child's development? Why or why not?</p> <p>Does _____ have any trouble with school?</p> <p>Has _____ had any special testing or evaluations at school?</p> <p>Tell me about the last time you spoke with your child's teacher.</p> <p>Does _____ have an IEP, Individual Family Service Plan, or DDD Support coordinator?</p> <p>Besides you, who knows _____ the best? How would they describe _____?</p> <p>What upsets your child?</p> <p>What does your child do to get in trouble?</p> <p>What behaviors does _____ have that upset you the most? What is your most effective means of handling the behaviors?</p> <p>Have you or anyone else ever described _____ as out-of-control or difficult? Tell me about that.</p> <p>Has _____ ever hurt or threatened to hurt anyone or damaged property? Tell me about that.</p> <p>Who helps you manage any of _____'s difficult behaviors?</p> <p>Does _____ get services from other agencies? Which agencies/services?</p> <p>Do you ever feel like _____ needs additional help? What type of help?</p>
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	What do you like about ____? What does ____ do well? Tell me about your child's friends. How would you feel if you learned your child was drinking or using drugs?
Questions to ask the Child	Observe child's physical, mental, social and developmental health. Do you like school? What parts of school do you like the best? Which part of school do you dislike? Who is your best friend? Do you feel like you get along with the kids at school? Do you ever get in trouble at school or at home? What for? What things are you good at? What are some things that you are not so good at/are difficult for you? Have mom or dad ever let you or your brothers and sisters drink?

CAREGIVER CHARACTERISTICS *Parenting Skills/Expectations of Child*

Questions to ask the Caregiver	Observe home for indication of a child friendly physical environment. Tell me something about each of your children. Tell me about your family's daily routine. What can ____ do at this age? Do you feel that ____ can do what you expect at this age? If not, describe. Do you and your spouse/partner/significant other agree about what ____ is able to do at this age? What behaviors does ____ have that upset you the most? What is your most effective means of handling the behaviors? What are the rules for the children? What are the consequences when the children do not behave? Do the children all have the same rules/consequences? What happens when ____ is not able to do what you expect? What happens when your child gets into trouble? How do you feel when you have to discipline your child? Are the discipline techniques you use effective? Tell me more about that. Are there any times you have disciplined when you were angry? Tell me what you think is normal discipline. How do you teach your child right from wrong? How do you help ____ know what you expect of them? If ____ is being really difficult, how do you deal with him/her? What bugs you about ____? What pushes your button? Who does he/she remind you of? What challenges you about your child? How do you know when your child is upset? Describe a time when ____ was successful? How did you help him/her succeed? On a scale of 1-10, with 1 the lowest and 10 the highest, how would you rate yourself as a parent? Describe a time when you thought you did a good job as a parent. What was happening at that time?
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	<p>Parenting isn't something you wake up and know how to do. Would you tell me about a time when you felt unsure as a parent?</p> <p>Who taught you to be a parent? Who is your biggest influence as a parent?</p> <p>What made you want to be a parent?</p> <p>Tell me about the best/worst thing about being a parent.</p> <p>What do you think being a parent means?</p> <p>What are the ways that you show love to _____?</p> <p>Who helps you care for your children?</p> <p>What chores/responsibilities does _____ have at home?</p> <p>Do you, your spouse, significant other, or any other person in the home with your child have any existing court order that restricts or denies custody, visitation, or contact with the child or other children?</p> <p>Do you, your spouse, significant other, or any other person in your home have any ongoing family court matters including criminal, domestic relationship, probate, justice, city, federal or tribal court?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>What are the rules at home?</p> <p>What happens when you break the rules at home? Are you ever spanked/hit? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Are the rules and consequences the same for all the children in the home?</p> <p>What are your chores at home? What are your brother's/sister's chores?</p>

Empathy, Nurturance, Bonding

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Observe whether books, toys, school work are present in home. Observe interaction between child and caregiver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical contact between the child and caregiver; • eye to eye contact; • caregiver's tone of voice used when communicating with the child; and • caregiver's attention to the child's needs during interview. <p>Tell me about your child(ren).</p> <p>How do you spend time with _____ each day?</p> <p>Is there something that keeps you from spending time with and giving attention to _____?</p> <p>How do you know when _____ needs something? or Does _____ come to you when he/she needs something?</p> <p>How do you show affection to your child?</p> <p>How do you show your love for your child?</p> <p>What does your child do when s/he is afraid or hurt?</p> <p>Whom does _____ seek for comfort?</p> <p>How do you attend to _____ needs? or How do you help _____ get his/her needs met?</p> <p>On a scale of 1-10 with one being not at all and 10 being completely, how much do you think that _____ trusts you?</p> <p>Using the same scale, how much do you trust _____?</p> <p>If you were to ask your child how s/he is, what would s/he say?</p>
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	<p>How do you get along with _____?</p> <p>Describe a great memory with _____.</p> <p>Tell me about how your family relaxes and has fun.</p> <p>What does your son/daughter do to make you proud?</p> <p>How do you think your child would describe you as a mom/dad?</p> <p>Is there anything you would like to change about your parenting?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Does your mom/dad attend your school/extracurricular (soccer games, school play, etc) activities with you?</p> <p>When you are hurt or do not feel well, who helps you to feel better? What do they do?</p> <p>What do you do with your mom/dad to have fun?</p> <p>Tell me two things you like about your mom/dad.</p> <p>Tell me two things that you don't like about your mom/dad</p>

Parent Substance Abuse

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Review prior DCS history and police reports for indication of substance abuse.</p> <p>Observe trash cans and the home to see if there are beer bottles or cans (how many, what, etc), needles, pipes, baggies, or other paraphernalia.</p> <p>Have you ever neglected some of your usual responsibilities because of using drugs or alcohol?</p> <p>On a scale of 1-10, 10 is that alcohol or other drugs are really messing up your family and 1 is that it has no effect on your family, where would you say your family is on this scale?</p> <p>Do others in your home use alcohol or other drugs? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Do you have concerns about your partner's drug/alcohol use? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Have you continued to use longer than you intended? Or, Have you spent more time drinking or using than intended?</p> <p>Have you ever wanted to stop using but couldn't?</p> <p>Has your family, your friends or anyone else objected to your use?</p> <p>Have you ever found yourself preoccupied with wanting to use? Or, Have you frequently found yourself thinking about getting a drink or getting high?</p> <p>Have you ever used drugs/alcohol to relieve emotional discomfort, such as sadness, anger, or boredom?</p> <p>How has drinking or drug use affected your family?</p> <p>Has your drinking or drug use caused job, school, family or legal problems?</p> <p>Has your current or past drug or alcohol use ever impacted your ability to parent _____ in the way that you would like to parent?</p> <p>Have you ever felt annoyed by criticism of your drinking or drug use?</p> <p>When was the last time you used alcohol or drugs? What did you use? How often did (do) you use?</p> <p>What would make it easier for you to stop using drugs/alcohol?</p> <p>What would your life be like if you did not drink alcohol anymore?</p> <p>Have you ever participated in substance abuse treatment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, when? What type, i.e. outpatient, residential?
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did you complete the treatment? <p>If applicable, are you in recovery? If not in recovery, how long have you maintained your sobriety in the past? What has contributed to you not maintaining sobriety?</p> <p>Have you ever been arrested? Did the arrest relate to drugs or alcohol?</p> <p>Are there any other adults in your home whose drug or alcohol use would affect your child's safety? If so, explain.</p> <p>Was there a time when you did not use alcohol at all?</p> <p>Are there some days that you don't use?</p> <p>Are there any circumstances when you would allow your child to drink? Has it ever happened accidentally?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Tell me what you know about drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Do you know anyone who uses drugs or alcohol?</p> <p>Is there anyone in your home who uses drugs or alcohol? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Are you worried about the drug/alcohol use in your home? What makes you worry about this?</p> <p>How much beer (alcohol) does your mom/dad drink?</p>

Mental, Emotional, Intellectual or Physical Limitations

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Observe caregiver's mental, emotional, intellectual and physical condition.</p> <p>Tell me about your health.</p> <p>Tell me about a problem you had and how you handled it.</p> <p>You have a lot of responsibility. How do you keep going?</p> <p>Sometimes wo(men) who are working full time and taking care of children feel anxious or overwhelmed. Do you ever feel anxious because of all your responsibilities?</p> <p>Do you have any physical health or mental health conditions that ever prevent you from being able to take care of _____?</p> <p>Do you ever feel like you just can't take it anymore? What do you do when you feel this way?</p> <p>Do you or any member of the family have any health conditions we should know about?</p> <p>Have you or any member of the family been sick lately?</p> <p>Do you have a medical doctor? When was the last time that you saw your doctor?</p> <p>Has your health ever held you back from getting a job or taking care of _____?</p> <p>Are you or any member of the family taking any medications for any reason? Are you taking your medications according to doctor's orders?</p> <p>Have you ever seen a counselor? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Do you get services from other agencies? Which agencies/services?</p> <p>Do you ever feel like you need additional help? What type of help?</p> <p>Are there times when you feel anxious or depressed? Tell me more about that.</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Does your mom/dad have any trouble doing normal daily things like cleaning the house, fixing meals and going to work?</p> <p>Are there things your mom/dad can't do that your friend's parents are able to do?</p> <p>Does anyone in your family cry a lot? Tell me more about that.</p>

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	<p>Does anyone in your family sleep too much? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Does anyone in your family have trouble with depression or anxiety? (teenagers)</p> <p>Does anyone in your family seem sad all the time?</p> <p>Does anyone in your family seem angry all the time?</p>
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General History of Violence

<p>Questions to ask the Caregiver</p>	<p>Review prior DCS history and police reports for indication of violence outside the home.</p> <p>What types of things make you upset?</p> <p>What do you do when things go wrong (home, work, life)?</p> <p>Have you ever used physical force with anyone? Why? In what way? If so, were the police involved?</p> <p>How do you handle disagreements or conflict in your work relationships?</p> <p>Describe your work environment. Do you feel successful and respected? Trusted?</p> <p>When was a time that you handled conflict well with your co-workers?</p> <p>Have you ever gotten into fights that resulted in someone getting hurt? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Do you own any weapons?</p> <p>Is anyone afraid of you? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Have you ever been told that violence is a problem with you? By whom?</p> <p>Have you gone, or felt a need to go to counseling for your temper? If yes: when, where and for what?</p> <p>Have you ever been arrested? If yes: when, where and for what?</p>
<p>Questions to ask the Child</p>	<p>Have the police ever been to your home? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Has your mom/dad ever been arrested/gone to jail? Tell me more about that.</p>

Domestic Violence in the Family

<p>Questions to ask the Caregiver</p>	<p>Review prior DCS history and police reports for indication of violence inside the home.</p> <p>Ask of both victim and alleged batterer (separately without compromising the victim's safety)</p> <p>Tell me about your relationship with your spouse/partner/significant other.</p> <p>How do you and your partner get along?</p> <p>How do you handle disagreement/conflict in your relationship/family?</p> <p>How do you and your partner handle differences of opinions?</p> <p>How are decisions made in your relationship?</p> <p>A lot of parents disagree about how to discipline their children. How do you and your partner handle disagreements about raising the children?</p> <p>Alleged Batterer:</p> <p>What kinds of things do you expect from your partner/family?</p> <p>Do you ever end a discussion with your partner and make the decision yourself?</p> <p>What do you do when things go wrong in your family?</p> <p>Do you keep your partner from talking to or seeing friends or family members?</p> <p>Have you ever called your partner names, criticized or put him/her down?</p> <p>Have you ever yelled, thrown, hit, kicked, or broken something?</p> <p>Have you ever used physical force with anyone in your family? Why? In what way?</p>
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	<p>Have you ever been told that violence is a problem with you? By whom?</p> <p>Have you ever wanted to change the way things are?</p> <p>Victim:</p> <p>Do you feel that your partner ever embarrasses you or _____, calls you names or criticizes?</p> <p>Have you ever felt worried about your safety because of your spouse/partner/significant other? In what way?</p> <p>Do you feel free to do, think, and believe what you want?</p> <p>Does your partner ever pressure or forbid you from talking to or seeing your friends/family members?</p> <p>Does your partner ever act jealous or possessive? If yes, tell me more about this?</p> <p>Has your partner ever made you participate in sexual activity against your will?</p> <p>Has your partner ever used physical force on you (pushed, pulled, slapped, punched, or kicked you)?</p> <p>Have you ever been concerned about _____'s safety?</p> <p>Do you have a pet? If so, have you ever been worried about your pet's safety?</p> <p>Are you afraid of your spouse/partner/significant other?</p> <p>How safe do you feel with your partner right now? If not safe, what makes you feel unsafe?</p> <p>If needed, do you have a safety plan in place for you and _____? If so, tell me about it.</p> <p>Have you ever needed to use a shelter to keep your family safe?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>What happens when mom and dad get mad at each other? What do they do?</p> <p>Do your mom and dad (partner, boyfriend, etc.) ever fight/argue?</p> <p>What kinds of things do they fight/argue about? Do they fight with their words, hands or something else?</p> <p>What is it like for you when they are fighting/mad at each other?</p> <p>When mom and dad are fighting/arguing, what do you worry about most?</p> <p>What do you want to do when your parents fight?</p> <p>If your mom and dad were fighting and you felt so afraid that you could not stay in the house, what would you do? Who would you call? What would you say?</p> <p>Have you ever gotten hurt when they were fighting? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Have you ever tried to stop the fighting? What happened?</p> <p>Have the police ever been to your home? Tell me more about that.</p>

Protection of Child by Non-Abusive Caregiver

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Describe a time that you have protected _____ from someone wanting to harm him/her.</p> <p>When you think that _____ is in danger, what do you do?</p> <p>What is your plan to protect _____ in the future?</p> <p>What is your relationship to (name of abusive caregiver)?</p> <p>Before this incident, did you feel that (name of abusive caregiver) would hurt _____?</p> <p>How do you think the experience (abuse or neglect) has affected _____?</p> <p>Have you left _____ with someone who has harmed him/her or another child in the past? Does this worry you? Tell me more about that.</p>
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Questions to ask the Child	What does (non-abusive caregiver) do when (abusive caregiver) is (abusive act)? Where is (non-abusive caregiver) when (abusive caregiver) is (abusive act)?
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History of Child Abuse or Neglect as a Child

Questions to ask the Caregiver	Tell me about your family—mother, father, sisters and brothers? What was it like growing up in your family? Where did you grow up? What memories do you have of your childhood? How did you know you were loved as a child? When you were a child, what happened when you got in trouble? What kind of punishment did you receive when you misbehaved? Who disciplined you? Did you have other important adults in your life as a child? If so, who were they and how did they make your life easier or more enjoyable? What do you think child abuse or neglect is? Describe any involvement, if any, that DCS had in your life as a child? Were you neglected or abused any way when you were growing up? Tell me more about that. How are you parenting _____ differently than your parents parented you?
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Recognition of Problem/Motivation to Change/Level of Cooperation

Questions to ask the Caregiver	How would you like things to be different? What would it take to change? What goals do you have for yourself, _____ and your family? What are you willing to do to reach these goals? What do you see as barriers? In what ways do you feel you need to improve or change as a parent? How are you parenting _____ differently than your parents parented you? From your point-of-view, why do you think DCS is involved with your family? Are our concerns real to you? How do you think _____ has been affected by (the specific abuse or neglect incident)? What is needed for you to ensure _____'s safety?
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FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

Economic Resources of the Family

Questions to ask the Caregiver	What financial resources do you have to support your family? Who handles your family's money? Are you able to access it? What creative ways have you used to make ends meet? Have you ever (or when was the last time that you) asked for assistance in paying for food, rent, mortgage and/or utilities? How many times have you moved in the past year? Why did you move? Are you able to pay the rent/mortgage most months? Which of your family's needs are difficult for you to meet on a consistent basis? What kind of work do you do? What kind of work do you enjoy? What is the longest time that you had a job? Have you had any training that you wish you could use in your work? Tell me more about that. Are people in your life supportive of you working? How and in what ways?
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	<p>Do you have a car or access to public transportation?</p> <p>Do you receive any public assistance such as food stamps or TANF? Which?</p> <p>How do you manage to stretch your income to keep your family fed for the whole month?</p> <p>What about your job creates stress for you?</p> <p>How do the members of your family contribute to the family's income (including the children)?</p> <p>When (your child) earns money, how is it spent/used?</p>
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Family Social Support System

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>Who would you contact if you could not care for your children?</p> <p>Who has the most influence on your life?</p> <p>Who has been helpful to you in the past and what did they do that was so helpful?</p> <p>Who do you call when you want to chat or just need some support?</p> <p>What are your friends like?</p> <p>What family members or friends live nearby who are willing to help you when you need something?</p> <p>Who do you consider family? Do you visit, call or write your family/relatives?</p> <p>Tell me about your extended family.</p> <p>Tell me about your relationship with your family?</p> <p>Where do you consider home?</p> <p>How long have you lived in this community? Do you like it? Why or why not?</p> <p>How does the community in which you live affect your family?</p> <p>What do you like most/least about your community/neighborhood?</p> <p>Are you connected to any tribe or family? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Are you involved with any church or community group? Tell me more about that.</p> <p>Who can you rely on?</p> <p>Who do you trust?</p> <p>Who helps you when you are stressed out? and How?</p> <p>Do you feel comfortable asking for help?</p> <p>What kind of support do you need from your family, friends or community?</p> <p>Tell me about the agencies or persons who have helped you or your family in the past.</p> <p>How do you relax/ take care of yourself?</p> <p>Is there anyone we can call to help you gain control over (your drinking)?</p> <p>Who else that you know might be helpful?</p> <p>Have you ever faced something like this in the past? What worked? or What was helpful?</p> <p>Who calls on you for help?</p>
Questions to ask the Child	<p>Who has helped your family in the past? How were they helpful?</p> <p>Who do you go to when you are afraid or hurt?</p> <p>Who could you go to if mom/dad is not there?</p>

Family Stress

Questions to ask the Caregiver	<p>What is a day in your life like?</p> <p>What major changes has your family experienced in the last year?</p> <p>How have these changes affected you and your family?</p>
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	<p>How is your child dealing with the changes?</p> <p>What times of the day are most stressful?</p> <p>What do you do to get through a stressful day?</p> <p>Sometimes when you don't know how you are going to feed your family it is hard to focus on anything else. Do you ever struggle like this? Who helps you during these times?</p> <p>How does your relationship with your partner cause you stress?</p> <p>So many parents tell me that raising a _____ year old is so very stressful. How do you feel the stress has affected you?</p> <p>What everyday tasks does your family struggle with?</p>
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